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PATENT

36 Amendments to the Claims:

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38 1. Aan user-removable housing cover adapted to be
39 detachably connectable to a portable radio communication
40 device with a plurality of operating characteristics, the user-
41 removable housing cover comprising:

42 an identity means for identification of the user-removable
43 cover;

44 an attaching means for removably attaching the cover to
45 the portable radio communication device by an user of the
46 portable radio communication device; and

47 the portable radio communication device comprising:

48 a sensor for sensing the identity means of the user-
49 removable cover; and

50 a processor for controlling the operating characteristics of
51 the device, the arrangement being such that in use the user-
52 removable housing cover is mounted on the portable radio
53 communication device and the sensor senses the identity means
54 and outputs a sensed parameter of the identity means to the
55 processor, wherein the processor is responsive to the sensed
56 parameter so as to change selected ones of the operating
57 characteristics of the portable radio communication device in
58 order to allow the user to customize the radio communication
59 device.

1 2. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the portable radio communication device is provided with a
3 plurality of pre-defined and pre-stored operating characteristic
4 configurations, and the processor is operable to change the operating
5 characteristics of the portable radio communication device by selecting

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- 6 one of the pre-defined and pre-stored configurations in accordance with
7 a corresponding pre-defined sensed parameter of the identity means.

1 3. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 2,
2 wherein the identity means causes the processor to change the
3 operating characteristics of the portable radio communication device by
4 selecting one or more of the plurality of operating characteristics pre-
5 defined and pre-stored on the portable radio communication device.

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1 4. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the identity means is provided with a plurality of pre-defined
3 and pre-stored operating characteristic configurations for the portable
4 radio communication device, and the sensor comprises a reader for
5 reading said operating characteristics of said identity means, whereby
6 the identity means causes the processor to change the operating
7 characteristics of the portable radio communication device by selecting
8 one or more of the plurality of said operating characteristic
9 configurations.

1 5. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the identity means allows the portable radio communication
3 device to access a pre-determined server or network and to download
4 therefrom data comprising operating characteristic configurations for
5 the portable radio communication device.

1 6. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 5,
2 wherein the pre-determined server or network corresponds to an
3 Internet website.

1 7. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the identity means comprises one or more mechanical pegs
3 and the sensor comprises contacts operable to sense the presence or
4 absence of pre-defined combinations of said one or more pegs.

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1 8. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the identity means comprises an electrical resistance means
3 and the sensor comprises a potential divider operable to sense the
4 electrical resistance means.

1 9. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the identity means comprises a memory or processor chip and
3 the sensor comprises a reader for reading said memory or processor
4 chip.

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1 10. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the operating characteristics of the portable radio
3 communication device comprise one or more of:
4 -ring tones and/or musical alerts;
5 -animations/screen savers;
6 -mode;
7 -bookmarks and/or browser preferences;
8 -phone memory preferences;
9 -games and/or game elements;
10 -UI screen colours and/or UI style;
11 -input method;
12 -audio set-up;
13 -default messages;
14 -display language;
15 -agents and/or agent set-up;
16 -security keys;
17 -push message filters and/or accounts;
18 -enabling of set-up and/or configuration settings;

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- 19 -sensor weighting;
20 -outgoing call restrictions.

1 11. AAn user-removable housing cover for a portable radio
2 communication device with a sensor, the housing cover comprising:

3 an attaching means for removably attaching the cover to
4 the portable radio communication device by an user of the
5 portable radio communication device;

6 an identity means, such that, when the housing cover is
7 mounted on the portable radio communication device, the identity
8 means is coupled with the sensor of the portable radio
9 communication, wherein the internal functionality of the portable
10 radio communication device is dependent on the identity means
11 allowing user to customize the portable radio communication
12 device.

1 12. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 11,
2 wherein the Identity means has associated with it a
3 Profiles setting indicative of a pre-defined operation state
4 of the device, such that mounting the cover on a portable
5 radio communications device changes the Profiles setting
6 of the device in accordance with the Profile setting
7 associated with the cover.

1 13. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 12,
2 wherein a selected user-removable cover having an associated Profiles
3 setting is in use located on the portable radio communication device
4 and controls the operating characteristics of the portable radio
5 communication device so as to be set to the corresponding Profiles
6 setting.

1 14. AAn user-removable housing cover according to claim 1,
2 wherein the user-removable cover carries indicia and graphics thereon,

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3 and the user-removable housing cover covers all or a part of the radio
4 communication device.

1 15. A portable radio communication device having an user-
2 removable housing cover, the portable radio
3 communication device comprising:
4 a sensor; and
5 a processor for controlling the operating characteristics of
6 the device, and the user-removable housing cover comprising an
7 identity means and an attaching means, wherein the user-
8 removable housing cover being configured to be mounted on and
9 removably attached to the portable radio communication device
10 by the user of the portable radio communication device, in which
11 arrangement the sensor of the portable radio communication
12 device is operable to sense the identity means of the user-
13 removable housing cover and provide an input to the processor
14 of a sensed feature of the identity means, such that the
15 processor is controlled to alter one or more of the operating
16 characteristics in accordance with the sensed feature of the
17 identity means.

1 16. A portable radio communication device according to claim
2 15, wherein the portable radio communication device includes a
3 plurality of the pre-defined operating characteristics each of said
4 operating characteristics being associated with a corresponding
5 Profiles setting, and wherein a plurality of user-removal covers are
6 associated with respective Profiles Setting, such that installation of
7 one of the plurality of user-removable covers on the portable radio
8 communication device activates the corresponding Profiles setting.

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